OBAMA et al. - 10/665,575 Attomey Docket: 008312-0306030

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### 1.-8. (Canceled)

- 9. (Currently amended) A paper sheet detection apparatus comprising:
  a conveying device which conveys a paper sheet along a conveying surface;
  a detection device which is provided opposite to the conveying surface and detects
  [[a]] the paper sheet conveyed by the conveying device;
- a guide device which is provided in at least [[the]] a paper sheet take-in side of the detection device and formed with includes a pair of guide members disposed opposite to each other at both side sides of the conveying surface, wherein one of the pair of guide members is fixed and the other guide member is movable relative to the one guide member;

an energizing device which elastically energizes one of the pair of guide members;

members member toward the other one guide member, and

a gas supply device which generates a clearance between the pair of guide members by moving one of the pair of other guide members member against the energizing force of the energizing device, by supplying compressed gas to the pair of guide members and ejecting the gas from the nozzle between the pair of guide members.

- 10. (Currently amended) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the guide device is provided in the paper sheet take-in side and <u>a</u> take-out side of the detection device.
- (Withdrawn) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a plurality of grooves provided at a certain interval on the paper sheet conveying direction and in the direction orthogonal to the conveying direction, and a plurality of nozzles provided at least in the parts surrounded by said plurality of grooves on the conveying direction of guide members.
- 12. (Withdrawn) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said

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a.

a

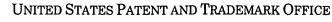
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plurality of nozzles are disposed column countries parallel to the paper sheet conveying direction, and the interval between the outermost nozzle column is set wider than width dimension of the paper sheet in the direction orthogonal to the conveying direction.

- (Withdrawn Currently amended) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to 13. claim 9, wherein one of said pair of the other guide members member consists of a plurality of divided guides divided vertically and horizontally along the paper sheet conveying direction and the direction orthogonal to the conveying direction; and each of the divided guides is not recompressed gas. A one of said at least one
- (Withdrawn Currently amended) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to 14. claim 9, wherein one of said pair of guide members consists of a plurality of divided guides divided over the paper sheet conveying direction; each of the divided guide parts has a nozzle to eject compressed gas; the gas supply device controls the supply of compress compressed gas to said plurality of divided guide members by switching the pressure and flow rate to be different at a certain cycle, and moves a pressure fluctuation or a flow rate fluctuation of the compressed gas ejected from the nozzles of said plurality of divided guides along the paper sheet conveying direction.
- (Withdrawn) The paper sheet detection apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the 15. gas supply device generates a pressure fluctuation or a flow rate fluctuation of the compressed air blown out from the nozzle, according to the height or the flow rate increment and decrement of the pressure of the compressed gas supplied to the divided guides.

16.-23. (Canceled)





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# Fax Cover Sheet

22 Sep 2005 Date: To: From: Thomas A. Morrison Application/Control Number: 10/665,575 Art Unit: 3653 Fax No.: 703-905-2500 Phone No.: (571) 272-7221 Voice No.: 703-905-2045 **Return Fax No.:** (571) -273-7221 Re: Proposed Amendment CC: **Urgent** For Review **For Comment** For Reply **Per Your Request** Comments:

Attached is a draft amendment that amends claims 9 and 11-13. Also enclosed is a copy of an Interview Summary that will be mailed to you. Please take a look at these documents and let me know if the proposed amendment is acceptable to your client. If so, I can enter it by an examiner's amendment. Also, please let me know how to proceed with claims 14 and 15.

Regards,

**Examiner Tom Morrison** 

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